



SUSTAINABILITY & LOCAL OWNERSHIP

USAID works with Armenian communities to foster sustainable results

USAID partners with the Government of Armenia, local governments, civil society organizations, media, and the private sector to effectively mobilize and administer locally-owned resources, promote rural economic development, and mobilize citizens as active participants in their communities.

SUPPORTING CONSOLIDATED COMMUNITIES

In partnership with the Ministry of Territorial Administration and Infrastructure, **USAID strengthens** local governance in 16 consolidated communities by supporting community-prioritized development projects to increase economic opportunity, improve the quality of public services, and empower communities to better identify their own needs. In the aftermath of the 2020 Nagorno-Karabakh hostilities, consolidated communities were better able to provide humanitarian assistance to those impacted by the conflict.

PROMOTING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

USAID works with small and medium-sized enterprises in rural communities to help them overcome constraints on production or diversify their product offerings. Through a small grants program, farmers commit at least 70 percent of a proposed grant project budget to invest in capital improvements that enhance linkages across farmers in their community or situate their businesses within a broader value chain.

LOCAL WORKS

Building on these programs, **USAID's Local Works initiative empowers** local actors to set priorities and mobilize the resources and actions needed to address them in consolidated communities in Armenia. Through two new Local Works activities, USAID is working with the communities of Shoghakat and Tsakhkahovit to increase their capacity and resilience to overcome the impacts of COVID-19 and future shocks.

2021 Results

- 521 local governments supported in improving their performance
- 240 youth trained through School of Local Democracy (SLD)
- 104 small grant projects implemented by SLD youth leaders
- 200 CSOs improved their capacity and skills in research, communications, & advocacy
- 168 jobs created in 16 consolidated communities
- 40 rural settlements had improved waste collection services
- 36 full time and 110 seasonal jobs established in rural communities
- 10 consolidated communities completed rapid assessments

CURRENT ACTIVITIES

Local Governance Reform Activity provides assistance to the Ministry of Territorial Administration and Infrastructure to implement the Territorial and Administrative Reform of Armenia and strengthen local governance through improved service delivery and provides grants for community development projects and equipment in 16 consolidated clusters.

2015 - 2022 | Territorial Development Fund of Armenia | \$8.6 million

Data for Accountable and Transparent Action (DATA) strengthens the institutional capacity of local Civil Society Organizations (CSO) and improves CSO capacity for evidence-based policy analysis, input and effective communication. DATA builds on USAID's previous Civil Society Organization Development Program to support them in becoming successful actors in building a more engaged, prosperous and well-governed Armenian society.

2020 - 2022 | Eurasia Partnership Foundation | \$2 million

Local Works promotes locally-led and community-centered development in consolidated communities through support for citizen-identified community priorities. The program encourages communities to become self-reliant so that they envision, own, and lead community development processes, and garner the support they need to enhance their resilience and reduce dependence on the central government.

Ongoing | Multiple Awards | \$1.2 million

Rural Economic Development-New Economic Opportunities (RED-NEO) promotes inclusive, sustainable economic security and growth by connecting producers and buyers, establishing networks to support economic development, and improving Small Medium Enterprises and farms to develop and grow. The project works in 60 communities throughout all 10 marzes in Armenia and focuses on the horticulture value chain and the hospitality sector.

2019- 2024 | Center for Agribusiness and Rural Development Foundation | \$5.1 million